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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/389,915	09/03/1999	LAWRENCE LAM	APLIP193/P23	6044
22434	7590	02/09/2005	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP			CHANG, YEAN HSI	
P.O. BOX 70250			ART UNIT	
OAKLAND, CA 94612-0250			PAPER NUMBER	
			2835	

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/389,915

Applicant(s)

LAM ET AL.

Examiner

Yean-Hsi Chang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-30,39,42-49,81-90,92-102 and 109-122 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-30,39,42-49,81-87,96-99 and 109-119 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 88-90,92,94,95,100,101,120 and 121 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 93,102 and 122 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/4/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 88-90, 92 and 94-95 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Vessa (US 5,008,870).

Vessa teaches a personal computing device (fig. 2) comprising: a housing (1, fig. 1) having a translucent portion (see col. 2, lines 31-32), the housing enclosing internally various components (fig. 2) that provide computing operations (9) for the personal computing device, and a light source (for example, 2) disposed inside the housing, said light source being configured to produce light inside said housing so as to illuminate at least a portion of said translucent portion (fig. 3C), the illumination of the translucent portion affecting the appearance of the housing in a non trivial manner (claim 88); wherein the computing device is a personal computer (a digital clock may be considered as a personal computer) (claim 89); wherein the personal computer is a portable computer (the clock may be portable) (claim 90); wherein the light source is a flat panel display (see fig. 1) (claim 92); wherein the light source produces light in first and second directions (vertically and horizontally) (claim 94); and wherein the light produced in the

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first direction passes through an opening (left of 1 in fig. 1) in the housing, and wherein the light produced in the second direction passes through the substantial portion of the housing that is translucent (upper or lower side of 1, in fig. 1) (claim 95).

3. Claims 100-101 and 120-121 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koch et al. (US 4,789,774).

Koch teaches a computer monitor (fig. 1) comprising: a housing (1) for enclosing internally various components of the computer monitor (fig. 1), the housing having an opening (5) for providing viewing access for a display screen (37) of the computer monitor, the display screen being configured to present visual information for viewing through the opening, the housing including a translucent wall (7) that surrounds some portion of the display screen and that is positioned at some location other than in front of a display region of the display screen (fig. 1), and a light source (54) disposed inside the housing and adjacent the display screen, the light source being configured to illuminating the display screen and illuminating at least a portion of the translucent wall of the housing, the light from the light source producing an illuminated area at an outer surface of the translucent wall that affects the appearance of the housing in a non-trivial manner (claim 100); a cosmetic shield (8) disposed between the display device and the translucent wall (claim 101); a light directing system (58) configured to direct the light from the light source to the translucent wall of the housing (see col. 1, lines 39-44 and col. 4, lines 45-49) (claims 120-121).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-2, 4-30, 39, 42-49, 81-87, 96-99 and 109-119 are allowed.
5. Claims 93, 102 and 122 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The best prior art of record, Vessa (US 5,008,870), Koch et al. (US 4,789,774), Ng et al. (US 5,222,076), Owen et al. (US 5,450,221), Lewis et al. (US 5,422,751), Bejin (US 5,406,729), and Ohgami et al. (US 5,689,400), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: a display apparatus comprising a housing substantial portions being translucent, and a cosmetic shield provided between said housing and a frame supporting a LCD panel, to mask said frame and said LCD panel from being visible through the substantial translucent portions of said housing as set forth in claim 1; a computer monitor comprising a housing substantial portions being translucent, and a cosmetic shield provided between said housing and a light source provided in said housing, to mask said light source from being visible through the substantial translucent portions of said housing as set forth in claim 19; a method for illuminating a design in a translucent housing by passing a portion of light reflected from a reflecting surface through an opening of a cosmetic shield provided between said housing and a light panel as set forth in claim 28; a computer monitor comprising a light diffuser being a label as set forth in claim 39, and being able to substantially normalize the intensity of

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the light being emitted through the transparent portion across flat panel displays with substantially different characteristics in the light emitted in the back direction as set forth in claim 45; a computer monitor comprising light emitted by a flat panel display, passing through a translucent portion of an outer shell and producing a multi-color illuminated design as set forth in claim 42; a computer monitor comprising a light guide that receives a portion of the light emitted in a back direction by a flat panel display, and directs the portion of the received light to a predetermined destination for illumination of a feature as set forth in claim 46; a portable computer comprising a display unit including a flat panel display and a translucent outer shell as set forth in claim 81; wherein the light source being an LCD as set forth in claim 93; a computing system comprising a cosmetic shield disposed between a light source inside a housing, and a substantial translucent portion of the housing, the cosmetic shield having a light blocking portion and a light passing portion as set forth in claim 96; a computer monitor comprising an EMI shield disposed between a display screen and a translucent wall of a housing as set forth in claim 102; a portable computer comprising a cosmetic shield disposed between a flat panel display and a translucent outer shell of a display unit, said cosmetic shield including a reflective surface and a masking opening for allowing light emitted from the flat panel display to pass therethrough for illuminating a portion of said outer shell as set forth in claim 109; and a light diffuser configured to diffuse the light that is passed through the translucent portion of the housing as set forth in claim 122. Claims 2 and 4-18 depend from claim 1; claims 20-27 depend from claim 19; claims 29-30 depend from claim 28; claim 43-44 depend from claim 42; claims 47-49,

114-115 and 117-119 depend from claim 46; claims 82-87 and 116 depend from claim 81; claims 97-99 depend from claim 96; and claims 110-113 depend from claim 109.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 88 and 100 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Correspondence

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-2038. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30 - 16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Art Unit phone number is (571) 272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and for After Final communications. There are RightFax numbers and provide the fax sender with an auto-reply fax verifying receipt by the USPTO: Before-Final (703-872-9318) and After-Final (703-872-9319).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
February 7, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yean-Hsi Chang', written in a cursive style.